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How do you clean non-disposable dental burs before you place in sterilizer?

As a matter of policy, Ask OSAP does not review, evaluate, certify, recommend or endorse products. Ask OSAP is also not in the position to provide technical support for specific products. If you have further questions about procedures and specific products it is recommended that you consult with the manufacturer's written instructions and/or contact the manufacturer of your product directly. The manufacturer's Instructions for Use (IFU) should be able to provide you with guidance on this matter.

The CDC Division of Oral Health states on its website:

Some devices—such as burs, endodontic files, and broaches—may be practical to consider single-use because the way they are constructed makes them hard to clean. In addition, cleaning and heat sterilization can lead to deterioration on the cutting surfaces and raise the potential for breakage during patient treatment. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) considers all diamond-coated burs and scaler tips single-use unless their manufacturers have submitted a 510(k) for reprocessing. FDA maintains a searchable database for 510(k) premarket notifications.

*Dental health care personnel (DHCP) should always refer to manufacturer instructions to determine if a device is single-use. If a device does not have validated reprocessing (i.e., cleaning and disinfection or sterilization) instructions, it is considered single-use (i.e., disposable). If DHCP have a question about product labeling, manufacturer instructions, or whether manufacturer instructions should have been included with a product, they should contact the manufacturer directly.*¹

This information can be accessed at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/faqs/single-use-devices.html>¹

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1) US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Single-Use (Disposable) Devices. <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/faqs/single-use-devices.html>

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